



The School of Education

Saint Mary's College of California School of Education is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The credential programs are approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Montessori Certificate Programs are affiliated with the American Montessori Society and accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education. The College is a member of the California Council on the Education of Teachers and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. In keeping with the Lasallian tradition (Saint De La Salle was the founder of the Christian Brothers), graduates are expected to be as committed to issues of values and concern for others as they are to academic excellence and professional competence.

Saint Mary's College Graduate Programs

Saint Mary's College of California encourages a thoughtful approach to work and to life for all of its students. In all its programs Saint Mary's College maintains a commitment to the aims of liberal education. Essential skills such as critical thinking, effective communication, and imaginative problem solving are emphasized. Saint Mary's College understands that graduate and adult students' experience and knowledge has value. Faculty members are chosen specifically for their interest in and commitment to working with adult learners. They approach teaching, not as a one-way transmission of knowledge, but as an interactive process that aims to help students learn to analyze information, to act on the basis of principles, and to render informed judgments.

Saint Mary's College of California

Saint Mary's College of California is built on one of society's most distinguished teaching traditions, the Lasallian Tradition. The Christian Brothers, founded by St. John Baptist De La Salle, is a teaching order, and one devoted to educating men and women from all walks of life. Saint Mary's College is consistently ranked one of America's best colleges by US News & World Report and Princeton Review's Guide to America's Best Colleges. Saint Mary's College of California is located on 420 acres in Moraga, California, 8 miles east of Berkeley and 20 miles east of San Francisco. Within minutes of our campus are some of the best—and the most challenging—public school districts in the country. Northern California is a “living laboratory” of educational opportunity.

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
of California

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Montessori Teacher Training Program
1928 St. Mary's Road P. O. Box 4350
Moraga, CA 94575-4350
925.631.4036 tel • 925.376.8379 fax
www.stmarys-ca.edu/soe

Saint Mary's College of California does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, medical condition, or physical or mental disability in any of its educational programs or in the provision of benefits and services to students.



SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
of California

School of Education

**Preparing Tomorrow's
Teachers Today**

Montessori

Thought

Minor

**Liberal Studies Minor
for Bachelor of Arts
Degree at
Saint Mary's College of
California**

www.stmarys-ca.edu/soe

Maria Montessori

The enduring educational philosophy of Maria Montessori (1870 – 1952), physician, developmental scientist, and educator, embraces constructivist principles and aims to educate the “whole child.” Montessori was nominated three times for the Noble Peace prize for her work in education. Her guiding consideration of respect for the individuality of each child is timeless.

Our Mission

The mission of the Montessori Program at Saint Mary’s College is to prepare caring and competent teachers to work with a diverse population of children in preschool and the elementary grades, and to become agents of positive social change.

Montessori Thought Minor

Saint Mary’s College undergraduate students may elect to take courses offered by the Montessori Education Program to complete a Liberal Studies Minor in Montessori Thought. Graduate students may continue their Montessori education, including participation in a paid internship and completion of curriculum requirements, to earn the American Montessori Society Early Childhood or Elementary Certificate, and/or a Master’s Degree in Montessori Education.

Montessori Thought Minor Course of Study

In addition to the general liberal studies requirements, including EDUC 119 (Field Experience in Early Childhood, Child in the Family and Community) and EDUC 144 (Cognitive Development), the Minor requires (3) classes and a .5 credit course from the list of electives below:

Required Classes (3 credits)

- [MONT 161](#) - Montessori Philosophy in a Cultural Context (1)
- [ECE 163](#) - Mathematics: Conceptual Learning (1)
- [ECE 164](#) - Language and Reading Development (1)

Electives (.5 credits)

- [ECE 131](#) - Positive Discipline and Classroom Management (.5)
- [ECE 159](#) - Practical Life Curriculum (.5)
- [ECE 160](#) - Conceptual Curriculum (.5)
- [ECE 166](#) - Study of the Sciences (1)
- [ECE 167](#) - Creative Arts I (.25)
- [ECE 168](#) - Creative Arts II (.25)
- [MONT 111](#) - Field Observation and Seminars I (.25)
- [MONT 112](#) - Field Observation and Seminars II (.25)

Students must meet with their advisor and with the ECE and Montessori Education program coordinator (925-631-4036) as early in their academic career as possible.

Early Childhood Certificate

This program prepares the student to teach young children 2.5 through 6 years in a Montessori environment.

Students may obtain Montessori Early Childhood Certification after graduation by completing any electives not taken as an undergraduate and participating in a half-day paid internship for an academic year in a Montessori early childhood classroom.

Elementary Certificate

The Montessori Elementary Certificate course of study is designed to prepare candidates to teach children from 6 to 12 years of age using Montessori’s elementary methods and curriculum.

Student may obtain Montessori Elementary Certification after graduation by completing the following electives not taken as an undergraduate – ECE 131, ECE 167, ECE 168, MONT 111 and MONT 112, completing some additional elementary course work, and participating in a full-day paid internship for an academic year in a Montessori elementary classroom.

Master Degrees

Students completing either certificate program have the option to pursue a Master of Arts Degree or a Master of Education Degree in Montessori Education.